## Yucaipa Regional Park Fourth of July Weekend Reminder

## Take precautions while in the park to minimize your exposure to hantavirus.

San Bernardino County Department of Public Health has confirmed two deer mice infected with hantavirus were found in the area. Hantavirus is a rare disease of the respiratory system caused by a virus transmitted to humans through the droppings of wild rodents such as deer mice. Although it



poses little threat to humans, this virus may be contracted by a process called "aerosolization" when dried materials contaminated by rodent droppings are disturbed. Humans become infected by breathing in these infectious aerosols.

Hantaviruses have been shown to be viable in the environment for 2 to 3 days at normal room temperature. Even though the ultraviolet rays in sunlight kill hantaviruses, anything that puts you in contact with **fresh rodent droppings or nesting materials** can place you at risk for infection.

Is it safe to go camping? Yes, but it is always important to avoid contact with animals, their burrows, nests and especially their droppings.



County of San Bernardino Department of Public Health DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES VECTOR CONTROL PROGRAM

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